

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 4, 5, 8 and 10 as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A portable computing device comprising:

a housing having top and bottom portions connected by a hinge, said top and bottom housing portions having an inwardly facing surface, an outwardly facing surface and a peripheral edge said outwardly facing surface having a central planer surface bordered by a pair of raised lateral side edges;

a set of keys disposed on an inwardly facing surface of said bottom portion;

a display screen disposed on an inwardly facing surface of said top portion; and

a leather grain layer disposed between said pair of raised lateral side edges on [an exterior facing] said central planer surface [of said top portion].

4. (Amended) The portable computing device of claim 1, wherein said outwardly facing surface of said top portion of said housing comprises at least one of said pair of lateral side edges [edge portion bordering said leather grain layer, said edge portion having] has a surface area less than the surface area of said leather grain layer.

5. (Amended) The portable computing device of claim 4, wherein said at least one of said pair of lateral side edges [edge portion] is smoother in texture than said leather grain layers.

5 8. (Twice Amended) A portable computing device comprising:

a housing having top and bottom shell portions hingedly connected along a [lateral] rear edge of said shell portions, each of said shell portions having an outwardly facing surface and an inwardly facing surface, said inwardly facing surfaces facing one another when said top and bottom shell portions are swivelled along said hinge into a closed position, said top shell portion having disposed thereon a pair of raised side edge portions;

a set of keys located on said inwardly facing surface of said bottom shell portion;

a display screen located on said inwardly facing surface of said top shell portion; and

a leather grain layer disposed [directly or indirectly] between said pair of raised side edge portions on [said] an outwardly facing surface of said top shell portion.

10. (Amended) The portable computing device of claim 8 wherein said [top shell portion comprises a pair of lateral edge portions bordering said leather grain layer, said lateral] side edge portions do not [exhibiting] exhibit a leather grain.